

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dep't of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 4-4-50 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 4-3-50

WEATHER Temperatures averaged slightly below normal. Windy and dusty weather prevailed in the first part of the period but in the northern part of the Panhandle and the extreme north central portion of the State locally heavy snowfall occurred, with a few places reporting 6 to 10 inches of snow. Precipitation was mostly light elsewhere and the week ended with rain changing to snow.

CROPS Despite the dry winter, wind and dust storms, winter wheat survived. Field inspection last week in South Platte counties, extending from the Missouri river west to the southern Panhandle revealed that winter wheat has greened up throughout this area with very little evidence of abandonment so far. A small area extending from the northern half of Dundy county through Chase and the southern half of Perkins county and a local area from Big Springs to Chappell is about the only area where the wheat crop shows some damage, from a combination of dry weather and wind. However, favorable moisture from now on should revive practically all of the wheat in these two spots. Damage consisted mostly of some "yellowing" of the underground crown, but the plants generally had a good root system and should recover with sufficient moisture. (Reports up to Monday afternoon indicated that area had received sufficient moisture to improve the wheat.)

Wheat got a good start last fall. The heavy rain that fell throughout the State October 11, followed by two months of favorable temperatures for growth, enabled the wheat to develop a splendid root system with ample top growth for protection, except for some of the late planted wheat. With the light moisture received during the winter from time to time, most of the surface soil had some moisture. Also periods of low temperatures were of short duration and the wheat apparently withstood the winter better than could be expected under the dry condition. In some spots, there was evidence of wind damage resulting in blownout wheat and a little covering by drifting soil, but the percentage for the State crop so affected is very small.

Winter barley in southwestern Nebraska winter killed badly. There was a little difference of opinion as to whether it winter killed, or whether it died after growth started this spring. Regardless, the leaves are brown and the underground crown yellowish and apparently dead. This was unfortunate because there is a large acreage apparently used to replace winter wheat.

The seeding of oats, which had been delayed throughout most of March, picked up last week in the southern counties. The southeast district reported 62% of the seeding done; south central district 42% completed and southwest district 32% of the oat seeding completed. Practically no seeding done in northeastern Nebraska because of wet soil. Some reports stated that the frost was not entirely out of the ground yet. About half of the spring wheat has been seeded.

The condition reports on alfalfa, wild hay and pasture outlook were very good, and the same applies to the winter wheat condition.

LIVESTOCK Many of the farmers were pasturing their winter wheat fields last week.

Moisture received the week ending Friday, improved range and pasture in extreme northwest and north central Nebraska. The moisture received this week will be of great benefit to pasture. A considerable number of cattle was observed in the farm feed lots. January and February shipments of cattle to country points showed a considerable increase over the same months a year earlier. Some of the weather of the past week was a little unfavorable for the calf and pig crops. The losses were about normal.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 3, 1950

Eastern Division		Central Division		Western Division	
Grand Island	.14	Burwell	.37	Chadron	.14
Lincoln	.12	North Platte	.30	Hayes Center	.80
Norfolk	.09	Valentine	0	Scottsbluff	.01
Omaha	.02			Sidney	.49
Sioux City	.01				

UNDERScoreD REPORTS
UNOFFICIAL

		MARCH				APRIL									
		28TH		29TH		30TH		31ST		1ST		2ND		3RD	
		MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN
NW	CHADRON	40	20	36	--	45	12	67	32	52	24	69	37	44	30
	SCOTTSBLUFF	43	22	44	21	44	17	65	33	57	26	70	35	57	33
	SIDNEY	44	22	44	17	43	13	66	34	60	24	69	34	61	27
N-C	BURWELL	33	21	28	17	43	23	60	32	--	--	55	--	55	31
	VALENTINE	27	19	26	16	40	23	60	31	48	24	64	40	48	28
NE	NORFOLK	35	25	28	20	36	25	59	41	60	28	50	40	58	33
	SIOUX CITY	38	28	30	19	36	25	56	34	61	31	50	38	58	34
GEN.	GRAND ISLAND	40	24	35	21	44	26	63	44	65	26	55	46	64	36
E-C	LINCOLN	40	28	35	23	40	28	61	49	67	29	52	46	66	38
	OMAHA	42	28	33	23	39	27	60	44	65	34	52	46	65	40
SW	HAYES CENTER	46	26	44	20	48	22	67	40	65	29	70	41	67	35
	NORTH PLATTE	38	25	37	25	49	20	65	33	62	29	66	40	60	33

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